(d) the details of the action taken by Government to check the recurrence of such scam in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) LIC has reported that there is only one incident in Delhi where it was reported that premia of Salary Saving Scheme policies of the employees of Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) were not properly adjusted by the Branch office. In August, 2003, complaints were received from the employees regarding pemium not having been adjusted against their policies. On receiving the complaints, an enquiry was instituted by LIC. Enquiry revealed that monthly premium remittances received from MCD were being partly diverted towards adjustment of fresh proposals and towards renewal premium of other policy-holders. Owing to this diversion of renewal premium, various policies of MCD employees were having multiple gaps in their premium payment. Disciplinary proceedings against five agents involved, namely, S/Shri R.K. Mahajan, B.M. Sharma, M.S. Kushwaha, P.K. Singh and Smt. N. Sunderiyal have been completed and their agencies have been terminated. Disciplinary proceedings against eighteen staff members have also been initialed. They are pending for the first stage advice of the Central Vigilance Commission.

(d) In order to check such frauds, LIC has put in place a very robust mechanism, viz., extensive use of computers and double back up of records.

Delay in Ex-Gratia Payments

629. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total amount announced for ex-gratia payment by different Ministries of the Central Government in the last three years, year-wise, Ministry-wise and accident-wise;

(b) what is the mechanism of identifying and delivering such amount to the effected persons or families;

(c) whether all such cases in the last three years have received the payment;

(d) whether Government are aware of delay in delivering the amount to the affected persons or families, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps are being taken to ensure expeditious delivery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Seizure of Imported Vehicles by DRI

630. SHRIMATI MOHSINAKIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J.DARDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Directorate of Revenue Intelligence(DRI) have seized about half a dozen imported vehicles were import/customs duty was not paid;

(b) if so, how many such vehicles were seized during 2003 and 2004; and

(c) How much amount was imposed as penalty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. During the years 2005, 61 vehicles have been seized by DRI on account of misuse of Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme for service providers and 10 vehicles have been seized on account of evasion of customs duty by way of misdeclaration of the year of manufacture or model number of such vehicles.

(b) During 2003 one vehicle was seized while during 2004 two vehicles were seized.

(c) The cases booked are yet to be adjudicated. Decision regarding imposition of penalty will be taken by the adjudicating authority at the time of adjudication of these cases.

Revenue Collected under FBT

†631. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue collected under the Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) head in the first and second quarter (i.e. April-June and July-September) of the fiscal year 2005-06;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.